UNITED
NATIONS

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United Nations
Conference
on Trade and
Development

Distr.
GENERAL

TD/B/WP/120/Add.1
16 August 1999
Original: ENGLISH

TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Working Party on the Medium-term Plan
and the Programme Budget
Thirty-fourth session
27 September 1999
Item 4(b) of the provisional agenda

FOLLOW-UP TO THE EVALUATION OF THE TRADE POINT PROGRAMME:

TRADE POINT PROGRAMME STRATEGY

Annex

Modalities to implement the proposed strategy

Executive summary

This annex contains the modalities to implement the proposed strategy together with the time frame, the specific objectives and the related performance indicators.

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1. It is estimated that the proposed Trade Point Programme strategy can be implemented within three years. It should be noted that the strategy is based on the assumption that the necessary extrabudgetary resources can be mobilized in a timely manner. The activities to be carried out during this period are designed to strengthen the self-sustainability of Trade Points and ensure their interconnectivity. The creation by the Trade Points themselves of national, regional and international forums will significantly reduce their dependence on the Trade Point Programme and allow such Trade Point forums to assume the support functions currently carried out by UNCTAD. Thus, the current package, encompassing the strategy and the modalities for its implementation, is aimed at consolidating the basic achievements of the Trade Point Programme and at preparing the ground for a gradual reduction in the UNCTAD secretariat's involvement in this area. The package can therefore be considered as constituting an exit strategy.

2. The secretariat will report to the Working Party on the implementation of the activities contained in this annex in 2001.

Objectives	Activities	Time frame	Indicators	Assumptions and risks
Capacity development	Fund raising for training activities	October 1999 – December 1999	Donor(s) funding confirmed	Strategy endorsed by member states at the thirty-fourth session of the Working Party, and donors confirm interest in providing financial support
	Training of 8 to 10 course developers selected mainly from Trade Points	Three weeks in February 2000 and three weeks in July 2000	8 to 10 course developers fully trained for subsequent activities	Extrabudgetary funding available
	Development and update of six courses to support the development of Trade Point services and to strengthen the Trade Point management capacity, including with respect to financial aspects	March 2000 – December 2001	Courses completed on Development of Trade Point Services, Trade Point Management, Trade Facilitation, E-Commerce, Global Architecture of GTPNet, and Trade Point website Design	Extrabudgetary funding available
	Preparation and update of Trade Point and GTPNet guidelines based on the experiences gained by, and the best practices at, operational Trade Points	January 2000 – December 2000	Guidelines for the establishment of Trade Points, management of Trade Points, effective operation of ETOs, value-added GTPNet tools, such as web publishing, and marketing of these tools available for Trade Points and their clients	Extrabudgetary funding available
	Training of 8 to 10 trainers selected mainly from Trade Points	Two weeks in June 2000 and two weeks in November 2000	8 to 10 trainers fully trained for subsequent delivery of training	Extrabudgetary funding available
	Establishment and maintenance of a roster of consultants selected mainly from Trade Points	October 1999 – September 2002	Roster of consultants available	

Objectives	Activities	Time frame	Indicators	Assumptions and risks
	Course/workshop delivery by region, including courses for the above-mentioned trainers	September 2000 – September 2002	Courses and workshops held in all regions	Extrabudgetary funding available
	Support the establishment by Trade Points themselves of regional Trade Point forums	October 2000 – September 2002	Regional Trade Point forums established in Africa, Asia and Europe, and for Arab and Mediterranean countries	Commitment and support by the Trade Points of the particular regions
	Support the establishment by Trade Points themselves of an international Trade Point federation	By March 2002	International Trade Point federation established (if so decided by the Trade Points)	Commitment and support by the existing regional Trade Point forums
	Handing over of activities to the regional/international Trade Point federation(s)	By September 2002	Regional/international Trade Point federation fully functioning	Funding available from participants and interested donors for staff and operational expenses of the regional/international Trade Point federation(s)
Renovation of the GTPNet	Updating of interactive tools, including a discussion database function, in a pilot phase with five Trade Points	October 1999 – February 2000	Release 1 of renovated GTPNet operational	Participating Trade Points have the technical capacity to adopt the new tools; local expertise available
	Renovation of the ETO system, taking into account the views of Governments and experts	November 1999 – March 2000	Renovated ETO system operational (on-line structured ETOs, search engine, profile-based subscription features)	Introduction by users of new quality criteria and adoption of new technology tools
	Update of system set-up based on user feedback	March 2000 – June 2000	Release 2 of renovated GTPNet operational	Feedback received from users in a timely manner

Objectives	Activities	Time frame	Indicators	Assumptions and risks
	Dissemination of renovated tools and techniques to Trade Points	July 2000 – June 2001	At least 50 Trade Points equipped with new technology or fully prepared for its introduction	Extrabudgetary resources available for training seminars, local technical environment ready to accept the new tools
	Fine-tuning of knowledge database function based on experiences gained from discussion database	January 2001 – March 2001	Knowledge database fully operational	Effective use by Trade Points of this tool; regular inputs from users received
	Transfer of know-how on maintaining and managing the GTPNet to regional forums	July 2000 – September 2002	Regional forums established	Extrabudgetary resources available for training seminars
	Transfer of know-how on maintaining and managing the GTPNet to the international Trade Point federation	April 2002	International Trade Point Federation established	Extrabudgetary resources available for training seminars

Abbreviations ETO electronic trading opportunity
GTPNet Global Trade Point Network